

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK NOVEMBER 2022

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in November was estimated to be 1.79 million metric tons (Mt), which was 8% lower than that in October and 7% higher than that in November 2021 (table 1). Total phosphate rock production for January through November was estimated to be 19.6 Mt, which was 3% lower than that in the same period of 2021.

Phosphate rock sold or used in the United States in November was estimated to be 1.93 Mt, which was 5% higher than that in October and 11% lower than that in November 2021. Total phosphate rock sold or used for January through November was estimated to be 19.8 Mt, which was 3% lower than that in the same period of 2021. U.S. producer stocks in November were estimated to be 8.82 Mt, which was slightly lower than those in October and 4% lower than those in November 2021 (table 1).

Imports of phosphate rock in November 2022 were 295,000 metric tons, which were nearly two times more than those in October and nearly three times more than those in November 2021. Total imports for January through November were 2.25 Mt, which was 5% higher than those in the same period in 2021 (table 2). Imports of phosphate rock can vary substantially from month to month based on sales contracts and production schedules of the phosphate plants.

Estimated apparent consumption for 2022, based on annualized data, was 24.2 Mt compared with 24.5 Mt in 2021 (table 3), owing to lower domestic production of phosphoric acid and elemental phosphorus in the first half of 2022. Adverse weather conditions in some areas of the United States during the spring planting season and rail delays contributed to lower domestic sales and production of phosphate fertilizers in the first half of 2022 (Mosaic Co, The, 2022).

### Reference Cited

Mosaic Company, The, 2022, The Mosaic Company reports second quarter 2022 results: Mosaic Company press release, November 1, 2022. (Accessed November 10, 2022, at [https://s1.q4cdn.com/823038994/files/doc\\_financials/2022/q2/Final-Press-Release-Q2-2022\\_8.1.22\\_3PM.pdf](https://s1.q4cdn.com/823038994/files/doc_financials/2022/q2/Final-Press-Release-Q2-2022_8.1.22_3PM.pdf).)

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TABLE 1  
U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS<sup>1</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Marketable production	Sold or Used	Stocks, end of period <sup>2</sup>
2021:			
January–November	20,100 <sup>r</sup>	20,400 <sup>r</sup>	9,150 <sup>r</sup>
November	1,680	2,160	9,150
December <sup>c</sup>	1,700	1,630	9,220
January–December <sup>c</sup>	21,800	22,000	9,220
2022: <sup>c</sup>			
January	1,510	1,660	8,900
February	1,530	1,650	8,780
March	1,600	1,930	8,450
April	1,550	1,640	8,370
May	2,000	1,820	8,550
June	1,820	1,800	8,570
July	1,900	1,790	8,690
August	2,000	1,970	8,730
September	1,920	1,810	8,850
October	1,950	1,830	8,960
November	1,790	1,930	8,820
January–November	19,600	19,800	8,820

<sup>c</sup>Estimated. <sup>r</sup>Revised.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Includes inventory adjustments.

TABLE 2  
U.S. IMPORTS OF PHOSPHATE ROCK<sup>1</sup>

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Period	Quantity	Value <sup>2</sup>
2021:		
January–November	2,140	177,000
November	99	9,430
December	323	31,600
January–December	2,460	209,000
2022:		
January	219	22,100
February	206	21,700
March	85	9,110
April	264	30,000
May	97	10,700
June	176	22,800
July	249	32,600
August	314	43,700
September	198	30,700
October	149	24,300
November	295	49,900
January–November	2,250	298,000

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Cost, insurance, and freight values at U.S. ports.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 3  
COMPARATIVE U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS

(Million metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2020	2021	2022 <sup>e, 1</sup>
Marketable production	23.5	21.8 <sup>e</sup>	21.4
Sold or used by producers	22.6	22.0 <sup>e</sup>	21.7
Yearend stocks	11.0	9.2 <sup>e</sup>	8.9
Imports for consumption	2.5	2.5	2.5
Average value per ton	\$74.55	\$84.80	NA
Apparent consumption <sup>2, 3</sup>	25.1	24.5 <sup>e</sup>	24.2

<sup>e</sup>Estimated. NA Not Available.

<sup>1</sup>Annualized data.

<sup>2</sup>Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

<sup>3</sup>Calculated as domestic sold or used plus imports.